

Message Text

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S E C R E T VIENNA 4923

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SUBJECT: CYPRUS TALKS: VIENNA II: MESSAGE FOR SECRETARY KISSINGER

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF MESSAGE FROM UN SECRETARY GENERAL WALDHEIM TO SECRETARY KISSINGER QUOTE DEAR HENRY, THANK YOU FOR YOUR LETTER OF 5 JUNE. YOUR IMPRESSIONS OF THE SITUATION, AND ESPECIALLY OF THE POSITION OF THE TURKISH SIDE, WAS SIMILAR TO MY OWN AND WAS PRETTY MUCH CONFIRMED DURING THE LAST THREE DAYS OF TALKS IN VIENNA. ALTHOUGH AT THE BEGINNING THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE WAS HIGHLY IMPATIENT AT THE INABILITY OF MR. DENKTASH TO MAKE ANY STATEMENT ON THE TERRITORIAL QUESTION, BY THE END OF THE TALKS, AFTER SOME EXTREMELY FRANK EXCHANGES, IT SEEMED THAT BOTH REPRESENTATIVES, AS WELL AS THE GOVERNMENTS OF GREECE AND TURKEY, WERE DETERMINED NOT TO ALLOW THE TALKS TO BREAK DOWN AND TO MAINTAIN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS DESPITE PRESENT DIFFICULTIES. IT WAS THEREFORE POSSIBLE TO SET A DATE-24 TO 27- JULY FOR THE NEXT ROUND IN VIENNA.

2. DENKTASH'S SUGGESTION OF A TRANSITIONAL FEDERAL GOVERNMENT PROVIDED A NEW ELEMENT WHICH THE TWO REPRESENTATIVES WILL DISCUSS FURTHER IN CYPRUS. IF THE GREEK CYPRIOT SIDE COULD ACCEPT SOMETHING OF THE KIND, IT MIGHT PROVIDE A USEFUL MECHANISM FOR BRIDGING THE GAP BETWEEN THE PRESENT IMPASSE AND THE EVENTUAL SETTLEMENT. IN ANY CASE WE SHALL SEE, BY THE NEXT

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ROUND, WHETHER THEY HAVE BEEN ABLE TO MAKE ANY PROGRESS

WITH THE IDEA.

3. ALTHOUGH THE ATMOSPHERE AT THE TALKS WAS EXCELLENT AND THE RELATIONS BETWEEN CLERIDES AND DENKTASH VERY FRIENDLY, I MUST CONFESS TO A CERTAIN FEELING OF FRUSTRATION THAT THE GOOD ATMOSPHERE IN VIENNA AND ELSEWHERE IS NOT MATCHED BY ANY REAL WILLINGNESS TO MAKE PROGRESS ON SUBSTANCE. ALTHOUGH WE HAVE NOW HEARD DENKTASH'S VIEWS ON THE NATURE AND FUNCTIONS OF A FUTURE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT, HE REFUSED TO GIVE ANY INDICATION OF THE TURKISH POSITION ON THE TERRITORIAL QUESTION. AS A RESULT, CLERIDES WAS UNWILLING TO DISCUSS FURTHER THE NATURE AND FUNCTIONS OF THE CENTRAL GOVERNMENT. IN PRACTICAL TERMS THIS ALSO MEANS THAT NO PROGRESS CAN BE MADE ON THE VERY PRESSING QUESTION OF REFUGEES. THIS IN TURN MAY HAVE A BAD EFFECT ON CLERIDES' STANDING IN CYPRUS.

4. IN FACT, IT IS MY IMPRESSION THAT BOTH DENKTASH AND CLERIDES, AND ESPECIALLY THE LATTER, ARE INCREASINGLY WORRIED BY THE EFFECT OF A PROLONGED STALEMATE ON THEIR POSITIONS WITHIN THEIR OWN COMMUNITIES AND ARE VERY ANXIOUS TO MAKE PROGRESS. UNFORTUNATELY, THEIR ABILITY TO DO SO DEPENDS ON FORCES OUTSIDE THEIR CONTROL.

5. I AM, OF COURSE, FULLY AWARE THAT NO BREAKTHROUGH IN THE NEGOTIATIONS IS POSSIBLE AS LONG AS ANKARA IS UNABLE TO STATE ITS POSITION ON A SETTLEMENT, WHICH MEANS, IN EFFECT, A CLARIFICATION OF THE TERRITORIAL AND REFUGEE ASPECTS. ON THE BASIS OF MY INFORMATION, WHICH SEEMS TO COINCIDE WITH YOURS, THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT IN ANKARA IS EVIDENTLY NOT IN A POSITION TO DO THIS.

6. IN ALL FRANKNESS, I WAS ABLE FOR THE LAST TWO ROUNDS TO MAINTAIN THE NEGOTIATING PROCESS IN THE INTEREST OF THE CAUSE AND IN THE HOPE OF A REASONABLE SETTLEMENT IN THE FUTURE. HOWEVER, I DO NOT FEEL THAT I CAN AFFORD TO DO THIS INDEFINITELY WITHOUT HAVING THE SLIGHTEST ASSURANCE THAT SOMETHING REASONABLE WILL COME OUT OF THESE TALKS. IN THIS REGARD, THE PRESTIGE OF THE UNITED
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NATIONS AND THE POSITION OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL ARE AT STAKE. I AM, OF COURSE, PREPARED TO CONTINUE TO DO ALL THAT I CAN TO HELP, BUT I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT IT WOULD BE USEFUL TO ANYONE TO GO ON FOR TOO LONG A PERIOD GIVING THE PUBLIC IMPRESSION THAT MEANINGFUL NEGOTIATIONS ARE TAKING PLACE, WHEN IN FACT NO SUBSTANTIAL PROGRESS IS BEING MADE. HOWEVER, LET US HOPE THAT THE SITUATION MAY IMPROVE BETWEEN NOW AND THE END OF JULY.

7. WARM REGARDS, KURT WALDHEIM UNQUOTE. BUCHANAN

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